

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, May 1, 2003

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien – Rm. 328-A, Detroit, MI 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Megan Norris
Willie E. Hampton
Arthur Blackwell, II
Erminia Ramirez
Edgar L. Vann, Jr.

Department Personnel Present

AC Timothy Black
DC Gary Brown
Insp. Jamie Fields
Insp. Willie McClure
Lt. R. Lawrence
Sgt. Debbie Jackson
Sgt. Bennett
Sgt. Stanley
Sgt. Cunningham
Sgt. Debbie Jackson
PO Womble
PO Irvette Reed

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supv. Investigator
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, Personnel Director

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams
Felicia Hardaway
Kellie Williams

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Walters
Ron Scott
Mike Payne, WWJ 950
Mary Lacey
DPOA Atty. Thomas Zulch

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Norris called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRIL 17TH – REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to approve the Minutes of Thursday, April 17, 2003.

SECOND: Commissioner Vann seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

APRIL 24TH – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to approve the Minutes of Thursday, April 24, 2003.

SECOND: Commissioner Vann seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Oath of Office

Chairperson Norris swore-in LaTonya Miggins-Coleman, who is a new Investigator at the Office of the Chief Investigator.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
SERGEANT ROSLYN BANKS**

WHEREAS Sergeant Roslyn Banks, badge S-276, of the Professional Accountability Bureau has retired from the Detroit Police Department after twenty-five (25) years of exemplary service to the citizens of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Sergeant Banks was appointed to the Detroit Police Department as a Police Officer on July 18, 1977; and

WHEREAS Upon graduation from the Detroit Police Academy, Officer Banks began her illustrious career at the Fourth Precinct; and

WHEREAS As a police officer, her assignments included the Fourth Precinct; the Court Services Section; the First Precinct-Prisoner Processing Unit; the Third Precinct; the Special Crimes Section; the Sex Crimes Unit; Court Liaison Section; Car Jacking Task Force; Commercial Auto Theft Section; Officer in Charge of the Public Information Unit and the Professional Accountability Bureau; and

WHEREAS On September 3, 1994, Officer Banks was promoted to the rank of Investigator and reassigned to the Sex Crime Unit. She was later assigned to the Car Jacking Task Force and the Commercial Auto Theft Section; and

WHEREAS On July 24, 1998, Investigator Banks was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assigned to the Public Information Unit. She was also assigned to the Professional Accountability Bureau; and

WHEREAS During her tenure, she was the recipient of numerous citations, a GOP Commemorative Award, eight Chief's Merit Awards, four Chief's Unit Awards, one Perfect Attendance Award, and numerous letters of commendations from citizens and superiors. Sergeant Banks has been active with the Lieutenants' and Sergeants' Association for the past nine years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED That the Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department acknowledge Sergeant Banks has served the Detroit Police Department with loyalty and dedication. Sergeant Banks is widely respected as a woman of honesty and integrity and is regarded throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional. Her actions were in accordance with the highest standards and traditions of the Detroit Police Department,

We salute and congratulate you, Sergeant Banks.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Chairperson

/s/Willie Hampton
Vice Chairperson

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Commissioner

/s/Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Commissioner

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Commissioner

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Commissioner Blackwell seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
POLICE OFFICER FRED MURRAY**

WHEREAS On April 28, 2003, Police Officer Fred Murray Jr., badge 4978, assigned to the Audio Visual Unit of the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, retired from the Detroit Police Department after twenty five and one-half (25^{1/2}) years of exemplary service to the citizens of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Police Officer Murray was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on November 21, 1977; and

WHEREAS Upon graduation from the Detroit Police Academy, Police Officer Murray was assigned to the Eleventh Precinct Patrol; and

WHEREAS As a police officer, his assignments included Fifth Precinct Patrol, Narcotics Section, Thirteenth Precinct Patrol, and the Audio Visual Unit of the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy; and

WHEREAS Police Officer Murray assumed the duties of video recording, editing, composing of department events, as well as city-wide newsworthy and historical events; and

WHEREAS Police Officer Murray was the recipient of the following awards: Chief's Unit Award 1995, Sonitrol Award of Merit, Law Enforcement Video Association Award of Merit in Documentary and Short Form Category, 1996 Nominee for Michigan Emmy Award in Documentary Category for "Gangs Past to Present," and (10) Letters of Appreciation; and

WHEREAS Police Officer Murray is currently a member and affiliated with the National Association of Black Journalist, Law Enforcement Video Association, and National Press Photographers Association. In addition, he is the Vice-President of Programs for the Michigan Chapter of the National Academy of Television of Arts and Sciences; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED That the Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department acknowledge Police Officer Fred Murray for his outstanding commitment, dedication and loyalty for twenty-five and one-half years (25^{1/2}). He is widely respected as a person of honesty and integrity, and highly regarded throughout the law enforcement community as a professional. Police Officer Murray's actions were in accordance with the highest standards and traditions of the Detroit Police Department.

We salute and congratulate you, Police Officer Fred Murray.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Chairperson

/s/Willie Hampton
Vice Chairperson

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Commissioner

/s/Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Commissioner

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Commissioner

MOTION: Commissioner Norris made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Commissioner Blackwell seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. SECRETARY REPORT – EX. DIR. GOSS

Exec. Dir. Goss stated there were three suspensions without pay last week, the charges were read into the record, the attorneys reserved their arguments until today, so Mr. Zulch you can go first. The first one is P.O. Lawrence Covington, badge 54.

Unknown person stated that is not correct.

Chairperson Norris stated which ever one Mr. Zulch wants to argue on.

Exec. Dir. Goss asked is that not it? Well which one did you want to argue on?

Chairperson Norris asked what do you have?

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated William Fickett.

Chairperson Norris stated okay, you are arguing Mr. Fickett, we weren't sure last week if you would be arguing that one or not.

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated yes.

Chairperson Norris stated alright, that's fine.

P.O. WILLIAM FICKETT

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated I know that you are aware of the suspension letter that was read into the record last week. Officer Fickett should not be suspended without pay, because this is a misdemeanor conviction. The circumstances and what occurred in October during a non-duty vehicle accident. The Commission should be aware that there are currently officers on this job today, with identical convictions and because of this he should remain...

Chairperson Norris asked convictions of negligent homicide?

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated that is correct, because of this he should remain working through the discipline process and whatever that might entail. In regards to his MCOLES certification, which was mentioned in the letter, certification may or may not be revoked. This is not an automatic situation this requires a hearing with MCOLES. These hearings have resulted in at least one officer, that I am aware of with the nature of a homicide conviction, retaining his certification. Because of that he should be retained on the job. There has been no change in his circumstances that should warrant his suspension without pay.

Chairperson Norris asked do you know the status of his MCOLES process at this point and where is he in that process?

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated the first step that would occur is that they will get notice of the conviction and then they will set up a hearing date and send that out to them. As far as, I know there has been no indication of when that hearing date would be.

Chairperson Norris stated you said that you were aware of one officer that got to retain their certification. She asked out of how many officers would have this kind of...?

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated I am aware of two officers, who have been successful and I don't know how many have appealed or have gone through the hearing process to try and retain it. One of the officers was negligent homicide, an off duty incident and the other officer involved an accidental gun discharge. I know the eventual charge was a high misdemeanor as well, I don't know the circumstances that are involved in that one, but I am aware of one officer.

Atty. Ninowski stated that she is appearing on behalf of the Detroit Police Department. It is the Department's position that the conviction for negligent homicide in this case is egregious and warrants a suspension without pay. Officer Fickett was convicted of negligent homicide on April 11, 2003, before Judge Nelson and Wayne County Circuit Court.

The facts and circumstances, which gave rise to that conviction did occur in July 2001. Officer Fickett was on duty operating a fully marked scout car on westbound of Livernois near the Jeffries service drive, he wasn't paying attention to where he was driving and he entered the intersection on a red light, collided with a vehicle that was traveling northbound on the Jeffries service drive and, thereby killed the passenger in that vehicle.

I think this case does present some interesting questions. The chain circumstance, that being the conviction for the negligent homicide certainly give us enough to bring it before the Board this afternoon for your consideration. In some of the cases that Mr. Zulch has referred to, at least one of the cases that I am familiar with, occurred in the 1980's and I certainly think that things have

changed since then. Applying the **Poullard** standard to this case, you could certainly see how he has violated the law and the Department certainly has no trust in him. If he is operating a vehicle under these type of circumstances or in this manner under these types of circumstances, one would question how you would question how he would operate a vehicle under emergency circumstances. M.L.E.O.T.C. certification, my understanding is that they will not begin that process until there is a certified copy of conviction, which will not occur until May 8th in this case, but they will begin that process for de-certification.

I am familiar with the case that Mr. Zulch refers to, where an officers' certification was suspended and that's been the only case of its kind and I believe that was a Flint case and that occurred in the earlier 90's. There were also some extenuating circumstances in that case. Otherwise, I do believe that the de-certification is mandatory.

I think most importantly of all, if you look at the **Poullard** decision, there is a sentence I would like to read, because Arbitrator Alexander is talking about Officer Poullards' circumstances and we also note that he was charged with negligent homicide although the circumstances were a bit different than what we have here. Arbitrator Alexander states:

"In my view pleading no contest in negligent homicide while a two-year misdemeanor is sufficient and sufficiently related to police functions as to call for a temporary relationship separation and to warrant a temporary suspension without pay."

I think that really speaks to the issue right here. He has been convicted of negligent homicide, the Department's position is that's egregious in and of itself, he would lose his certification through MCOLES and we would respectfully ask that you concur with the Chief's decision.

Vice Chairperson Hampton asked do we have access to the transcript of this case?

Chairperson Norris asked are you asking where is the transcript from the criminal trial?

Vice Chairperson Hampton stated yes.

Chairperson Norris stated we could order it. I don't believe you would normally as a matter of course have done that.

Atty. Ninowski stated I certainly will on May 8th and I have already been in contact with the court to see if there is any other kind of documentation. I do believe that I provided Director Goss with a Register of Action from Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Nelson, but that is all they had available at the time.

PAUL CARMONA

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated I believe that is Paul Carmona. Officer Carmona was involved in the same incident with Nathaniel Weekly, but I believe Counsel asked to do them separately, so I will.

Officer Carmona is an officer that has no criminal charges as of this date and he should be allowed to remain on the payroll pending a full investigation. Clearly, we have a situation where we have allegations as to what occurred and regards to him discharging his weapon while off duty. There should be a full investigation at least prior to him being suspended without pay.

A situation In our United States of America is that you are essentially suppose to be not guilty until you are assumed to be not guilty and that should be applied to this officer as well, pending the investigation and any criminal charges or whatever may result from this investigation. I would ask that he remain on the payroll pending this.

Chairperson Norris she asked have any criminal charges been brought at this point?

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated not that I am aware of.

Atty. Ninowski stated we have submitted a warrant in request of this case. Again this is a Department's petition and the Department's position is that the conduct that Officer Carmona engaged in was serious and egregious to warrant a suspension without pay. The facts of this case are very simple, April 19, 2003, at 1:30 a.m., two off duty homicide officers are driving down Ford Road going past the Toy Chest Lounge. When they observed a vehicle exit the parking lot and proceed down Ford Road and the front passenger of that vehicle is discharging a firearm into the air. The off duty officers call 911 and remain on the line until Michigan State Police can make a traffic stop, which they do at I-75 and Grand River. They identify the front passenger of the vehicle as off duty Officer Paul Carmona and they take a weapon from his person. They identify the passenger in the back seat and identify him as off duty Officer Weekly and they take his weapon. (I will get to his argument next).

With respect to Officer Carmona, they bring him to the First Precinct, they ask him to take a Breathalyzer, which he does and the results are back at 0.14. What you have in this case is a violation of the law, you have a negligent discharge of a firearm, brandishing a firearm in public and you also have possession of a firearm while intoxicated, you also have various violations of the Department's Rules and Regulations, most importantly when you are suppose to fire your weapon and that is in life threaten circumstances.

If you apply the ***Poullard*** test to this case and you look at the impact that this

conduct has on the Department and this conduct is more than irresponsible, there is no excuse for this conduct with an inherently dangerous weapon. Considering all that this community has gone through and struggled through with respect to gun safety over a last number of years. With respect to this Department and our ability to trust that officer to do his job, there is none. There is a complete breakdown in that, he shows absolute disregard for not only the law, but for the public safety and think that is the most important thing in this case. The Department would respectfully request that you concur with the Chief's petition and grant the suspension without pay.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked did you say something about you would be getting to Weekly's argument in a moment?

Atty. Ninowski stated yes, that is my next argument.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked were they in the same car?

Atty. Ninowski stated yes, they were in the same vehicle.

POLICE OFFICER NATHANIEL WEEKLY

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated Officer Weekly suspension is related to Officer Carmona's, he was also in the vehicle in question. It is a similar situation; there have been no criminal charges. It is my understanding that the gun was allegedly that was in his possession was registered as stolen. Again, this result should be a result of a full investigation prior to his suspension. There could be many instances of guns remaining in the property section of the MCIC computer listed as stolen and by no means do I have any of the reports or any indications of what that situation is. Clearly he should be allowed to remain on the payroll having a full investigation determine as to what the status of the gun was officially and what his knowledge was into where that gun came from.

Atty. Ninowski stated my understanding of this case is that a warrant request has been submitted to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. The facts and circumstances are the same. Officer Carmona and Officer Weekly were in the same vehicle. Officer Weekly was in the rear seat of the van. On I-75 and Grand River the Michigan State Police stopped the vehicle and they identified Officer Carmona and they identified Officer Weekly as being an off duty Detroit police officer and they take a weapon from his person.

Pursuant to policy and state law, they run that weapon through the Law Enforcement Information Network and the weapon comes back as stolen out of Sterling Heights and of course that information was confirmed with Sterling Heights police and they stated that it was a stolen weapon.

The Department's position is that conduct in and of itself, the possession of a stolen firearm, is egregious conduct. Not only does it violate the state law, it violates the Department policy with respect to weapons. Weapons are very personal and there are inherently dangerous, you don't change a weapon from person to person. Similarly the weapons that you do have are registered with the state and they are approved by the Department. That did not happen in this case, Officer Weekly was in possession of a stolen firearm.

Chairperson Norris asked did he have his departmental weapon?

Atty. Ninowski stated no, he did not have his departmental weapon on him. The Department would respectfully that you concur with the Chief's decision to support the suspension without pay.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked was he tested for a Breathalyzer?

Atty. Ninowski stated no, at that point he was not the target of the investigation, it was Officer Carmona.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked did he discharge the weapon?

Atty. Ninowski asked are you asking did Officer Weekly discharge that weapon?

Comm. Blackwell, II stated yes.

Atty. Ninowski stated no, there was no indication that the weapon had been discharged.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked so the only issue for him is a stolen weapon.

Atty. Ninowski stated that is correct, possession of a stolen weapon.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked did he give a reason of why he was in possession of a weapon that was stolen?

Atty. Ninowski stated no he did not. We have given him more than one opportunity to answer that question and he has not answered that question.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked has he refused to answer it?

Vice Chairperson Hampton asked was it loaded?

Atty. Ninowski stated yes, it was loaded.

DPOA Atty. Zulch stated as she has indicated, he has been given an opportunity to answer that question, however, that has been under the provision

of Miranda and based upon advise of our office and his attorney he did not make a statement. There was not a situation where the Garrity interview was conducted to bring out that information based on the provisions of Miranda.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked does he have a record or any other kind of record?

Atty. Ninowski asked are you asking if he has a disciplinary record?

Comm. Blackwell, II stated yes.

Atty. Ninowski stated I believe he has a case pending but he does not have a disciplinary record. He's appointment date is in February 2000.

Chairperson Norris asked so he is a fairly new officer?

Atty. Ninowski stated yes, he is a relatively new officer.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated I guess you have two officers in a car. One's behavior is pretty apparent from the standpoint of discharging a firearm, being reckless and being drunk. The other guy has a weapon that is stolen, but no one...it would be nice to know if you question him, why did you have it and where did he get it? The rules are that an officer when they buy another weapon that has to be immediately registered and that kind of thing correct?

Atty. Ninowski stated that is correct, it has to be registered and it has to be approved by the Department.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated okay. He asked even if it wasn't stolen, they would have violated those provisions?

Atty. Ninowski stated correct.

Comm. Ramirez asked did you say that the gun was loaded?

Atty. Ninowski stated yes, I did say that the weapon was loaded.

Comm. Ramirez stated it keeps referring that Carmona is the driver and Weekly is sitting in back of the van.

Atty. Ninowski stated Carmona is in the front passenger seat and Weekly is sitting behind Carmona in the rear seat of the van.

Comm. Ramirez asked in the rear?

Atty. Ninowski stated in the seat behind Carmona.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked who was driving?

Atty. Ninowski stated there were six people in that van and a friend of theirs was driving the van.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked not a police officer?

Atty. Ninowski stated no, not a police officer. They were the only two police officers in the vehicle.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked does anyone know whether or not if that person was arrested?

Atty. Ninowski asked the driver of the van?

Comm. Blackwell, II stated yes.

Atty. Ninowski stated no he was not arrested.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked was he given a Breathalyzer test?

Atty. Ninowski stated I would have to look at the report, I don't recall if they tested him for a Breathalyzer. I do recall that they spoke to him.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated it seems to me that if a guy drives a van with a guy shooting out of the window, he would either have to be drunk or crazy or either he felt threatened for his life. I am just saying that is a pretty weird situation to be with.

Atty. Ninowski stated I did neglect to mention that there were four or five shell casings found in the middle of Ford Road by Internal Affairs.

Comm. Blackwell, II asked and where did they just leave from?

Atty. Ninowski stated the Toy Chest Lounge on Ford Road.

Vice Chairperson Hampton asked has it been determined that the shell casings came from that particular weapon?

Atty. Ninowski stated no, we have sent those in for testing, the results have not came in.

Atty. Hooks stated we are getting too far into the facts of the case.

Chairperson Norris stated for everyone's understanding, that's because we made somebody hear an appeal on a disciplinary issue involving this, at this

point our issue is duty status and is there enough for us to support or contravene the Chief on this suspension as oppose to getting into whether....

Comm. Blackwell, II asked if we ask a certain question to determine whether or not we will make a determination, when do you go to far?

Atty. Hooks stated it is a very thin line that you walk. But now we are getting into a lot more facts then those presented in the recommendation for a suspension. If those were relevant facts to your decision, then I suggest that they should have been included in the report, in terms of how many casings were or were not there and so forth. As for the breath test as, far as I know that is not a part of your suspension information and it should have been if it is going to be argued to be used as part of your decision making process.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Weekly Count of Complaints:	21	342
Weekly Count of Allegations:	53	605
Arrest	0	25
Demeanor	24	198
Entry	0	6
Force	6	49
Harassment	0	24
Procedure	12	193
Property	7	37
Search	0	23
Service	4	50

Pending Cases

As of April 2, 2003, the Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) has a total of **342** pending cases, which include **139** cases with an age of 0-45 days, **55** cases with an age of 46-60 days, **93** cases with an age of 61-90 days, and **55** cases with an age of 91-120 days.

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During the past week:	21	Year to Date:	374
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5. CHIEF'S REPORT

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

MIND'N OUR BUSINESS

Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department's mission is building a safer Detroit through community partnerships. Therefore, the following enforcement actions were conducted during the week of April 23-29, 2003:

ORGANIZED CRIME & GANGS DIVISION

The Conspiracy Intelligence, South-East and Vice Sections conducted five enforcement actions that resulted in (3) felony, (18) misdemeanor arrests and (1) juvenile detained. These enforcement actions reflected in the confiscation of 5,000 grams of cocaine, and 21.4 grams of heroin with a street value of \$2,052,520.00. Eleven (\$11.00) dollars in U.S. currency, and (17) miscellaneous ordinances were also issued.

TENTH PRECINCT

On April 23, 2003, officers of the 10th Precinct received a police run to the 11000 block of Collingwood, on "Person with a weapon." The investigation revealed that an attempt robbery had occurred at this location. As a result of the officers' quick response and observation, two subjects were arrested for "Attempt Robbery Armed," and confiscated were two (2) handguns and a vehicle.

THIRTEENTH PRECINCT

On April 25, 2003, officers of the 13th Precinct received a police run on "A person in Dalgeish Cadillac's lot stealing tires." As a result of the officers' surveillance, one subject was arrested on three (3) counts of "Larceny from Auto" and (1) Habitual.

HOMICIDE SECTION/VIOLENT CRIME TASK FORCE

On April 20, 2003, at the Main Event Bar, located at 11201 E. Seven Mile, a subject was fatally shot in the head. Through the combined efforts of the Homicide Section and the Violent Crime Task Force, the wanted subject was arrested without incident on April 25, 2003.

Chief of Police Jerry A. Oliver, Sr.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Chairperson Hampton chaired the Appeals Subcommittee.

Vice Chairperson Hampton stated we have a request to accept the late filing of disciplinary appeal, concerning Sergeant Carl Clarke, Badge S-5, Discipline File No. 99-0433.

MOTION: Commissioner Hampton made the motion to approve the late filing.

SECOND: Commissioner Vann seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Atty. Hooks stated for record and the clarification for the record, I know that the Executive Director last week read that magic language, "Unless contravened these suspensions will stand." There were no contraventions at this time, however, in light of the arguments that were just made if we could just go through each of those suspensions so that we would have it on the record.

Exec. Dir. Goss stated the following:

Police Officer Paul Carmona, badge 2809, assigned to the Sixth Precinct.

Unless contravened by this Commission, the above suspension without pay will stand.

There were no contraventions to the above suspension without pay.

Police Officer William Fickett, badge 4265, assigned to the Second Precinct.

Unless contravened by this Commission, the above suspension without pay will stand.

There were no contraventions to the above suspension without pay.

Police Officer Nathaniel Weekly, badge 3595, assigned to the Second Precinct.

Unless contravened by this Commission, the above suspension without pay will stand.

There were no contraventions to the above suspension without pay.

Chairperson Norris stated I wanted to inform the Commissioners that I was invited and attended, as did our Exec. Dir. Goss, the Executive Leadership Retreat held by the Chief this week, it was a two-day retreat. I thought it was a terrific meeting. She also commended the Department for inviting us to the retreat.

I gave a comment to the media on Friday, but I don't like to speak through the media, I rather speak efficiently. I am appalled that a federal judge wrote a lengthy opinion about how he views the actions of the Department based on a report that the Commission has never been allowed to see. I think that is embarrassing for us, embarrassing for the City, and embarrassing for the Department. He suggested that the Shoulders' Report was basically an effort to cover up wrongdoing by the Department and put all at the feet of Eugene Brown. I have no way of knowing if that is true or false because I have never been able to see the information on which the judge based his opinion. The idea that a federal judge and Eugene Brown's lawyer, our lawyers, 12 members of this Department and people from the Law Department have been able to see this and we haven't, when it clearly implicates policy issues training issues recruiting issues, supervision issues, disciplinary issues and any other kind of issue that you could image that would fall at our feet. I think it is reprehensible and we will be seeing what we could do about that.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated for the record, her comment doesn't necessarily reflect mine.

Chairperson Norris stated that's alright. He is a former partner of mine, I will take my chances.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated I never liked to call federal judges reprehensible.

Chairperson Norris stated I am not saying that he is reprehensible. I am saying the fact that he's got something and has such a strong opinion about that affects us so much and we haven't been allowed to see it.

Comm. Blackwell, II stated I respect your independence and your diligence. I am just saying that I want to make it clear for the record that Art Blackwell doesn't necessarily agree with that particular comment, but I understand your point.

Comm. Vann stated Madame Chair I do agree with your comment, because I was Chair of this Commission during that very stressful time and I am also appalled. We have done everything that we could in our power as a Commission to try to receive the report, to review in an expeditious manner and in a

confidential manner. That report does reflect training issues, policy issues of which this Commission has a priority interest. I am certainly not speaking against the federal judge personally, but I am very appalled at the decision. We have the Department of Justice and we are waiting on whatever kind of decision that they are going to give to us. I have a sense of anticipation that it maybe a type of decision that lends itself to more federal oversight of this Department and its activities. As I have surveyed this, especially with our context through NACOLE and through other civilian oversight commissions throughout the nation, there is some big changes ahead for this Department, as to how it deals with these kinds of things. This arrogant attitude of we are not going to show you anything, we are not going to give you anything, who do you think you are?, when we are they body that oversees this Department. I have good sense it is going to be rectified with the federal intervention that is on it's way. I look forward to it, because I think that it is going to be the beginning of really substantially reforming the operation of this police department, which is the vision of the Mayor and this Police Chief.

Chairperson Norris stated I am not criticizing the judge, I'm criticizing those that are withholding from us that which they gave to the judge.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ron Scott stated we feel that it would be right to render information to this body and others and certainly to the victims, about the information that would be relevant to the changing of this Department and the relationship that citizens that have been victimized have to it.

Ms. Walters stated citizens should receive training for how to pull over when police vehicles and emergency vehicles when their sirens and lights are on. Is there a way you could educate churches and schools on what to do when a emergency vehicle passes?

Chairperson Norris stated I think that is a very good idea.

Mary Lacey stated she asked if all of the Commissioners could sign a letter indicating that she has made them aware of an officer has been stalking, harassing and intimidating her on April 4, 2003.

Chairperson Norris stated the times that she addressed the Commissioners regarding this matter is a part of public record, which is included in our Minutes and in our tapes. She asked Ms. Lacey to talk to Interim Chief Investigator Sheard after the meeting.

Vice Chairperson Hampton stated he would like to encourage everyone to participate in the City's Makeover program on each Saturday in May.

Comm. Ramirez stated we are celebrating Cinco de Mayo and there are a lot of activities going on Saturday and Sunday at St. Anne's, Bagley, and Clark Park. It is my understanding there is a lot more security from the Third Precinct and Fourth Precinct. I have also asked Dir. Bryant-Weekes if she could provide a recruiting table at Clark Park.

Dir. Bryant-Weekes stated we will have a recruiting table at Cinco de Mayo and we are trying to step up recruitment of the Hispanic Community. She encouraged everyone to take a flier for themselves or for someone that would be interested in participating in the "Hiring of in the Spirit of Service" focus group.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 8, 2003 @ 6:30 p.m.
New Light Baptist Church
5240 W. Chicago/Grand River
Detroit, Michigan 48206

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/kdw

Vice Chairperson Head stated the following Standing Committees will be Chaired and Co-Chaired by the following Commissioners:

Citizens Complaints

Disciplinary Appeals

Promotional Appeals

Budget

Legal Affairs

Labor Relations

Personnel & Training

Vice Chairperson Head stated the Special Committees will be Ad Hoc. They are Residency, Building & Construction, Standardization of Discipline and the Labor Negotiations will be assigned as needed.